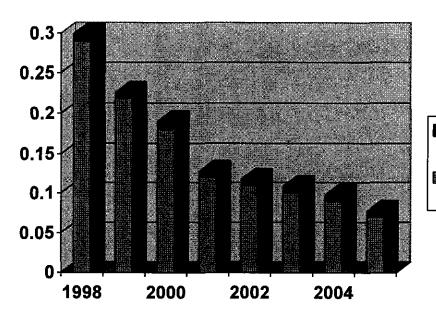
Per-Minute Cost (\$) of Wireless Service (Including USF Contributions)

(1998-2005)

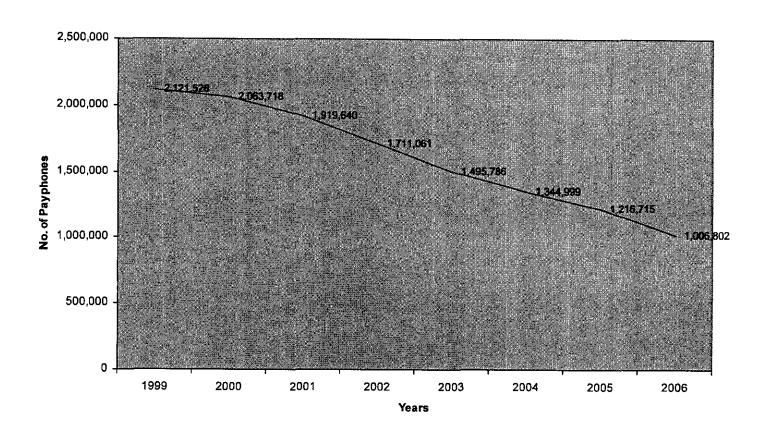


- Contribution Factor Cost Per Minute
- Average Cost Per Minute

Total U.S. Payphones From 1999 to 2006

Total US Payphones from 1999 to 2006

Source: Trends in Telephone Service (Feb. 2007), Table 7.6



Testimony of Consumers and Public Safety Officials in the State of Maine

[Separate file attached]

Testimony of Consumers and Public Safety Officials in the State of Maine

[Separate file attached]

Resolution of the Mississippi Legislature Regarding Cellular South

[Separate file attached]

STATE OF MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION UNITED STATES CELLULAR REQUEST FOR ETC DESIGNATION DOCKET NO. 2004-246

LOCAL WITNESS TESTIMONY

Bingham

DOCKET NO. 2004-246

US CELLULAR
RE: APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS AN
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
UNDER 47 U.S.C § 214(e)(2)

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JIM BATEY

- Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.
- A1. My name is Jim Batey. I am the Economic Development Director at Somerset

 Economic Development Corporation. My business address is 41 Court Street Skowhegan, Maine

 04976.
- Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Bingham?
- A2. Yes. I know that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine and I understand that they are intending to improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Bingham. US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify to receive funding from the Universal Service Fund. If the Maine Public Utilities Commission determines that US Cellular is eligible for this funding, it will be able to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to expand service into Bingham and other parts of rural Maine.
 - Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Bingham area?
 - A3. Yes. There is currently no cell service in the town of Bingham. I hear frequent

complaints about the lack of service from tourists, local residents and business people. The lack of cell service is a real detriment to the economic health of the area.

- O4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?
- A4. The availability of cell service would certainly be a benefit to the business community of Bingham. The lack of cell service really inhibits the economic growth that is so needed in this region. Businesses would be more likely to locate in this area if they had access to technology such as cellular service and broadband. Provided US Cellular will be able to minimize the visual impact of any new facility from Route 201, a National Scenic Highway, I would welcome the expansion of cellular service into the town of Bingham and endorse US Cellular's efforts to become eligible for the funding that would enable them to expand into this region.
 - Q5. Does this complete your testimony?
 - A5. Yes.

DOCKET NO. 2004-246

US CELLULAR
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UNDER 47 U.S.C § 214(e)(2)

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF SHERIFF BARRY DELONG

- Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.
- A1. My name is Barry DeLong. I have been the Sheriff of Somerset County for the last ten years. Prior to that I was a state trooper for twenty years. My business address is 41 Court St. Skowhegan, Maine 04976. I live in Cornville, Maine.
- Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Bingham?
- A2. Yes. I am aware of the fact that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine. I understand that US Cellular is applying to the Maine Public Utilities Commission for eligibility to receive federal funds. If US Cellular can gain access to these funds, it will be able to provide cellular service in Bingham, something that we really need up here.
 - Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Bingham area?
- A3. Yes. All of our patrol deputies' transport vehicles are equipped with cellular phones, and have been for the last seven or eight years. There is hit or miss service throughout the area we cover, but Bingham is the worst of all. It is totally dead and you can never get a call out.

- Q4. Have you and your officers faced any problems because of the lack of cellular service in the area?
- best day we have three officers covering an area that spans 3,000 square miles. Our county is unique in that fully 40% of the population lives outside of towns in very rural areas. Because of the lack of cell service we waste valuable time traveling 50 or 100 miles when a single phone call might solve the problem. The Route 201 corridor is heavily traveled and there are frequent accidents. All of my officers travel alone and they really need to be able to communicate with dispatch, with complainants, with other law enforcement personnel and with health and safety personnel. Just last week, there was a fatal car accident on 201. Three young boys were killed and we couldn't put their names out on the radio because of confidentiality reasons. In many locations, we don't even have radio service so the lack of cellular service means we can't reach anyone at all. We are forced to go look for the closest landline. You can imagine what a problem this is when you have a single officer on the scene. When we are called to a domestic situation, there are many times when the phone is torn right out of the wall or the people don't even have a phone. This means the officer has no way whatsoever of even calling for an ambulance or for backup.
 - Q5. How would the availability of cellular service affect your work and your community?
- A5. Having cell service would really help us out up here. As I said, my officers all travel alone. If they are called to a domestic situation it could be lifesaving if they could contact the complainant to find out how serious the situation is does the guy have a gun, or a knife? If my officers could get this information they would know whether they should call for back up. There are also many seasonal people who have camps in this area. If they are elderly and have a heart attack or

something, the cell service could literally be a lifeline. In the winter it often gets down to 20 or 30 degrees below zero around here and your chances of hitting a moose or a deer are pretty good. If someone's car breaks down or they have an accident in that kind of weather, they might not see another car for two hours. In these kinds of situations, cellular service can save lives very easily. Furthermore, this area is becoming very popular tourist destination for white water rafting and snowmobiling. We need to be able to respond well to emergencies arising out of those activities. I also have some major concerns related to homeland security.

- Q5. Can you explain?
- A5. Yes. The Wyman dam is located just north of Bingham in Moscow on the Kennebec River. This is a major hydroelectric facility and could be the target of terrorist activity. If the dam were blown out, the entire town of Skowhegan would be submerged under twenty feet of water. Currently, there is no cellular service out at the dam and radio service is spotty. If we are going to be able to respond to a major emergency at the dam, the ability to communicate via cell phone is crucial.

We really need cellular service in the Bingham area and I support US Cellular's efforts to become eligible to receive the funding necessary to bring service to Bingham.

- Q6. Does this complete your testimony?
- A6. Yes.

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CLYDE DYAR

- Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.
- A1. My name is Clyde Dyar. I am the Director of the Thomas M. Teague
 Biotechnology Center of Maine and the Treasurer of the International Northeast Biotechnology
 Corridor (both in Fairfield, Maine). I am also the owner of Meadow Brook Consulting, in Mount
 Vernon, Maine, and I provide business and economic development consulting services. I am
 currently running for a seat in the Maine Senate for District 18. My business address is P.O. Box
 149, Fairfield, Maine 04937. I live in Mount Vernon, Maine, and I run my consulting business
 out of Mount Vernon.
- Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Bingham and surrounding areas?
- A2. Yes. I know that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine and I understand that they are intending to improve service in various parts of rural Maine including Bingham. I understand that US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify for funding from the federal Universal Service Fund. If the Maine Public Utilities Commission approves US Cellular's application and it receives the necessary funds,

it will be able to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to provide cellular service in Bingham.

- Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Bingham area?
- A3. Yes. I travel extensively between Fairfield and Canada along Route 201, and average about 65,000 miles per year. The cellular service between Skowhegan and Jackman is very limited and this lack of reliability inhibits my business capabilities tremendously. Providing reliable service to Bingham would at least begin to address the problems of inadequate cell service along this important highway.

I would also like to see improved cell service in the area between my home and business in Mount Vernon and the Center in Fairfield. There is absolutely no service between these points, and service is spotty in the outlying areas of Fairfield. Additionally, it is almost impossible to get cellular reception when traveling north on Route 139. Therefore, I have to plan my routes carefully so that if I need to make or receive a call, I will be in an area where I can do so. A new cell tower in Bingham would, as I stated above, be a big step toward improving the situation on Route 201.

- Q4. What is the nature of your business and how is it impacted by the poor quality of cellular service in the Fairfield area?
- A4. In my role as Director of the Thomas M. Teague Biotechnology Center of Maine and Treasurer of the International Northeast Biotechnology Corridor, I am involved in a collaborative effort to market the Corridor and the Teague Center and what they contain to the outside world. We work with many large international companies, including companies from Canada, France, China and Japan. Executives that come to this area need to be able to communicate effectively while they

are with us and they all rely on cellular phones. As a business and economic development consultant, it is very important that I be available to contact my clients by cellular phone. Also, I need to be able to communicate by cellular phone between the Biotechnology Center in Fairfield and my home and business in Mount Vernon, as well as surrounding areas. Currently, this is impossible because of the patchy service. In addition, my efforts to help clients develop the business community of this area are greatly impeded by the unreliability of cellular service. Everyone else in the world is doing business by cell phone and businesses will not want to locate in this area if they cannot compete due to the lack of such a vital resource. The lack of cellular service really puts the business community of Fairfield and surrounding areas at a disadvantage.

I applaud US Cellular for wanting to move forward and expand cellular service into the Bingham area and wholeheartedly endorse their application before the Maine Public Utilities Commission to become eligible to receive the necessary funding. In addition, I hope that sufficient funds will eventually become available so as to permit US Cellular to improve service between Fairfield and Mount Vernon.

- Q5. Does this complete your testimony?
- A5. Yes.

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF SENATOR PAMELA HATCH

- Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.
- A1. My name is Pamela Hatch and I live in Skowhegan, Maine. I represent District 13 in the Maine Senate. Prior to becoming a state senator, I served on the Skowhegan School Board. Thereafter, I represented the Skowhegan area in the Maine House from 1992 until 2000. I am completing my second term in the Senate, where I chair the Transportation Committee, and am seeking re-election in the fall. The Town of Bingham is in my District.
- Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular's proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Bingham?
- A2. Yes. I know that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine, and I understand that the company intends to improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Bingham. US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify to receive funding from the Universal Service Fund. If the Maine Public Utilities Commission determines that US Cellular is eligible for this funding, it will be able

to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to expand service into Bingham and other parts of rural Maine.

- Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in your District?
- A3. Yes. I am now campaigning for the Maine Senate for the third time and that requires me to travel throughout the area. I have made several trips to Bingham and there is no cell service there at all. This really concerns me as I often drive long distances to Bingham by myself and I worry that I will get into an accident and be unable to contact anyone. This is not just a theoretical problem. My husband and I have had two very close calls with moose in the road at night in that area and we frequently see them alongside the road. When you encounter a moose in the road at night, the moose suddenly appears before you can do anything about it, so collisions can be just about unavoidable. In areas without cell service, people who get into accidents on the road are completely at the mercy of whoever might happen to drive by. And in the Bingham area, you could wait quite a while before a car comes by at night.

In addition, I know from personal experience that getting into auto accidents on cold days in Maine can be dangerous. On January 14 of this year with the temperature at 7 degrees below zero with a 26 below zero wind chill, I was driving to Augusta with my husband when an oncoming truck slid into us on the ice on Route 202 in Winthrop. The accident happened at eight o'clock in the morning and a Kennebec County Sheriff arrived on the scene fairly promptly, but the temperature in the car went down very quickly and we were freezing cold in the car before he came. My husband had broken both his knee cap and his ankle, and bones were exposed in both areas. It took 50 minutes to extricate us from the car with the Jaws of Life and we thought we would freeze to death

before they pulled us from the wreckage. So I am very familiar with sitting in the cold waiting for emergency personnel to arrive.

I also believe that expanding cell service in my District would help with business development. People in Portland have cell service and just assume that it's everywhere, but in my District having cell service is the exception to the rule. Somerset County has lost numerous jobs over the past few years, especially in the small towns north of Madison and Skowhegan. We need to improve the attractiveness of our business climate by having good cell service. Also, we are working hard to develop tourism, and the lack of cell service hurts us there as well. Our visitors need and expect cell service so that they can stay in touch with their business and families back home.

I would urge the Commission to move this case forward as quickly as possible so that US Cellular can follow through on its plans to get cell service in Bingham.

- Q4. Does this complete your testimony?
- A4. Yes.

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ANDY JACQUES

- Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.
- A1. My name is Andy Jacques. I am the owner of Andy's Silkscreen in downtown Bingham. I also belong to the Bingham Volunteer Fire Department. My business address is: 322 Main Street Bingham, Maine 04920, and I live at 268 Main Street in Bingham. I have operated my business in Bingham for 21 years and have been a firefighter for 4 years.
- Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Bingham?
- A2. Yes. US Cellular is a cellular service provider and I understand they are proposing to provide and improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Bingham. I understand that US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify to receive federal funds that would enable them to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to expand service into Bingham and other areas in Maine.
 - Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Bingham area?
- A3. Yes. There is no service whatsoever in the town of Bingham. Operating a business on Main Street downtown, I hear complaints every day from customers, salespeople, delivery

people, police, firefighters and EMTs about the lack of cellular service in Bingham. Approximately five people come into my business each day needing to borrow my phone because they can't get any service. Particularly, UPS and Federal Express are unable to use their delivery tracking system because they don't have cell service.

- Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect you and your community?
- A4. The ability to access cell service would be of tremendous benefit to the entire community of Bingham. Right now I am particularly concerned about the inability of safety personnel, such as EMTs, firefighters and police to communicate effectively without cellular service. I am a firefighter and just the other day I was tuned in to the radio and an ambulance was headed into an area where there was no radio coverage and so they were without the ability to communicate at all. Cellular service would take care of that problem and also provide for the benefit of confidential communication between safety personnel, something that is not available on the radio. There are also a lot of vacationers who are out on the trails in potentially dangerous situations. The safety of our community and the people who visit here would be so much improved with cellular service.

In addition, access to cellular service would benefit my business and other businesses in Bingham. Salespeople and customers who visit my business would have access to their cell phones, thus making Bingham a better place to do business. I have not subscribed to a cellular plan because of the lack of service, but if there were service, I would be able to use a cell phone in the course of my daily business.

As a Bingham taxpayer, business owner and firefighter, I endorse US Cellular's proposal to bring cellular service to rural areas of Maine and support its efforts to secure the necessary federal funding.

- Q5. Does this complete your testimony?
- A5. Yes.

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US CELLULAR
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DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF JEANETTE JACQUES

- Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.
- A1. My name is Jeanette Jacques. I am a co-owner of Jacques Distributors which provides auto parts and heavy equipment parts. I have also been an EMT with the Upper Kennebec Valley Ambulance Service for thirty years. My business address is 241 Main Street, P.O. Box 136 Bingham, ME 04920. I live in Bingham, Maine.
- Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Bingham?
- A2. Yes. I know that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine and I understand that they are intending to improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Bingham. As I understand it, US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify for funding from a federal fund. If the Maine Public Utilities Commission approves US Cellular's application for this funding, it will be able to make the necessary improvements to expand service into Bingham.
 - Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Bingham area?

- A3. Yes. There is almost no cell service in Bingham. When you get three miles north of town there is no cell service and no radio either so you are entirely without communication. All of our ambulances are equipped with cell phones but in Bingham we are not able to use them. I don't have a personal cell phone because they aren't usable here.
 - Q4. How has the lack of cellular service in Bingham impacted your work as an EMT?
- A4. The lack of cellular service is a real hazard for the ambulance service. Not having cell service really impacts our ability to provide good care and at times it is life threatening to our patients and to us as EMTs
 - Q5. Can you explain?
- A5. Yes. Without cellular service we are unable to communicate with various people. We can't call for backup if a patient is more seriously injured than we had thought. In order to dispense certain medications we need to get approval first from an emergency room doctor. We can't reach the hospital to do this when we have no cellular service. Just a year or so ago I was called to the scene of an accident. A log truck had tipped over. Usually when this happens, the driver is not badly hurt, so I went with only an unlicensed driver and was the only EMT on the scene. When we got there we saw that the truck had tipped over onto a car and the driver of the car was very severely injured. She was a patient that should have been taken out by LifeFlight, the critical response medical helicopter service, but our cell phone wouldn't work so we couldn't call them. This patient was truly jeopardized because of the lack of cell service. I couldn't even call for backup. I ended up having to crawl back and forth under the truck to get supplies as I didn't even have someone to fetch things for me. Eventually we transported the patient to Skowhegan Hospital which is 25 miles away. From there she was later moved to Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor

where she would have been taken by LifeFlight had we been able to make a call. All this wasted precious time.

- Q6. How would the availability of cellular service impact your business?
- A6. The availability of cellular service in our area would really help our business. We cater mostly to woodswork business and so our customers are rarely near a landline. They need to be able to reach us from wherever they are to let us know what parts they need. Cellular service in Bingham would be a great benefit to the whole community. Therefore, I support US Cellular's application to receive the federal funding needed to expand into this area.
 - Q7. Does this complete your testimony?
 - A7. Yes.

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DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF REPRESENTATIVE
MONICA MCGLOCKLIN

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

- Q1. Please state your name, affiliation, title and business address.
- A1. My name is Monica McGlocklin. I have just completed my third term as a member of the Maine House of Representatives. I represent District 66 which includes the towns of Bingham and Moscow. My home address is 930 Embden Pond Road, Embden, Maine 04958. I am employed as a sales and marketing representative at MBNA.
- Q2. Are you familiar with US Cellular and its proposal to provide cellular service in the town of Bingham?
- A2. Yes. I know that US Cellular provides cellular service in many parts of Maine and I understand that they are intending to improve cellular service in various parts of rural Maine including Bingham. US Cellular has filed an application with the Maine Public Utilities Commission seeking to qualify to receive funding from the Universal Service Fund. If the Maine Public Utilities Commission determines that US Cellular is eligible for this funding, it will be able to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to expand service into Bingham and other parts of rural Maine.

- Q3. Are you familiar with the quality of cellular service in the Bingham area?
- A3. Yes. There is currently no cell service in the town of Bingham at all. In fact, there is no service at all in my entire district, with the exception of one small area. I myself used to have a cellular phone for emergencies but I gave it up because of the lack of service.
 - Q4. How will the proposed improvements affect your community?
- A4. In my capacity as representative of the town of Bingham, I know that the proposed improvements to local cellular service will positively affect the Bingham area. The lack of cell service in Bingham has had a very negative impact on health and safety services because of the inability of health and safety personnel to engage in vital communications with each other. In addition, cellular service in Bingham would have a positive impact on the business community and the prospects of attracting new businesses to Bingham. Businesses tend to stay away from communities that don't have cell service as cell service is becoming more and more vital to the operation of a successful business.

I am aware that the community as a whole is at a disadvantage from both a business and safety standpoint because of the lack of cell service in the Bingham area. The access to service would be of tremendous benefit to the town of Bingham and I therefore strongly support US Cellular's efforts to secure the necessary federal funding which will enable it to bring cellular service to the town of Bingham

- Q5. Does this complete your testimony?
- A5. Yes.